

7 THE FAMOUS 250  
TRAGEDY  
OF *N<sup>o</sup> 2. P.*  
OSMOND

The great  
TURK,

Otherwise called the  
NOBLE SERVANT.

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Written by  
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LONDON,  
S<sup>t</sup>ed for *Humphrey Moseley*, at his shop at  
the *Princes Armes* in *St. Pauls Church-*  
yard. 1657.

**Drammatis Personæ.**

*Melcosbus,*  
*Orcanes,*  
*Osmond,*  
*Calibeus,*  
*Odmer,*  
*Haly,*  
*Hofa,*  
*Eunuch.*  
*Prisoners.*  
*Souldiers.*  
*Captains.*  
*Mutes.*  
*Messenger.*

Emperour of *Tartary.*  
His Son.  
The noble Servant.  
A jealous *Cham.*  
Faithfull to the Emperour.  
An aspiring Traitour.  
Servant to *Orcanes.*



*Despina,*  
*Ozaca,*

A fair Christian Slave.  
Wife to *Calibeus.*

**OSMONI**



# OSMOND

the great


## TVRK,

Or the

## NOBLE SERVANT.

### Actus Primus.

*After an Alarm, and people running over the Stage;  
Enter Osmond, a Tartar with his  
Sword bloody.*

*Osmond.*  He City reekes with the warm blood  
of murder'd Christians whose avarice  
hath made them & their wealth our  
prey. Sword! thou hast shed much  
blood, and of the first and noblest:  
not added by this arme; for thou to it lentst vigour:  
a vertue thou retainst, since *Melcoshus* my great and  
royall Master buckled thee on my thigh, for which so  
unaccustomed favour and many other, when I forget  
still to adore him equall to our Prophet, may my death  
quickly follow; now if any thing (*charge.*) like dan-  
ger's left, that dare appeare, he meet it. *Exit.*

*Enter two Souldiers, and Despina.*

1. *Sold.* Villain hold off thy hands, shee's my prize;  
what though thou first seizedst on her, is she a prey for so  
base a slave?

2. *Sold.* How, slave! he prove my selfe thy better.

A 2

*Despina.*

## Osmond the great Turneke, or,

*Desp.* Unhappy maid, must I become the cause of bloodshed, tho even of *Tartars* our Enemies, heavens forbid; hear me, you wrathfull men, by your great Prophets name, I charge you: we Christians pacifie our rage for our deare Masters; sake make a division of me and of my cloathes, he to whose lot I fall, Ile be his faithfull slave.

1. *Sold.* I am content; so I who am a Janisarie may have the better share of her person.

2. *Sold.* No, Ile have that, take thou her cloaths and Jewels.

1. *Sol.* Then Ile have all.

*Desp.* Alas, why strive you for this worthlesse person, so far as lies in my ability ile serve you both.

2. *Sold.* A good kinde wench.

1. *Sold.* I am agreed; so I may first lie with her, to share her cloaths and jewels.

*Desp.* How, lie with me?

2. *Sold.* Wee'l cast lots.

1. *Sold.* Agreed.

*Desp.* Divinitie assist me, what meane these men? went I about to save their lives for this?

2. *Sold.* I am first.

1. *Sold.* You lie, shee's mine.

*Desp.* Oh I feare! Would that sword that peirc'd my Noble Fathers heart, had cut me from the world, e're this unhappie houre of my dishonour.

2. *Sold.* Leave her or thy life. (*Exeunt striving for her.*)

*Enter Melcoshus, Odmer, Haly, Captaines,  
and Prisoners.*

*Mel.* Thus Souldiers, though cold hunger, and all impediments of war seem to block up our way, we have made passage by our unwearied valour: the gods were forc't to give us victory, and such a victorie as makes your King an Emperour, and you in honour and riches

riches equall to Kings, I meane our *Chams*; each private souldiers wealth equals some Christian Lords.

*Odm.* Our riches, lives, and honour we hold from our magnificent Emperour great *Melcolus*, and as his slaves, thus low prostrate, we kisse his happie feet.

*Mel.* You see, doggs, it is not with us, as with your ruin'd Maister; who when he pleaded with his best eloquence, as I have heard, to make his greedy Subjects open their Coffers for their own safety, could not prevail with them: for they both base and foolish, rather chose to perish with their Idols, than to relieve the generall necessity, and so have hazarded saving both life and honour, which makes me not restraine the Souldiers from any insolency, though I know a cittie taken by assault to be the only stage, where rape, murther, and sacriledge is acted to the life.

*Haly.* *Melcolus* is godlike-wise in all; those who forget their Emperour under whom they live, deserve no pittie from a conquering Enemie; our prophet hath appointed you his scourge; mercy unto his Enemies were cruelty to him.

*Cap. Haly,* doe not incite to blood, he is nearest faultiness that way of any: should he grow thirsty by custome, we have not Christians enough alwaies ready to quench that thirst; or, glutted with these, our owne blood may be found perchance more sweet, if we grow rich or popular.

*Haly.* Captaine, it is true; the fox would rather strive to abate than increase the Lyons feirceness, since forc'd to obey and serve him.

*Mel.* Honest *Odmer*, thou carefull servant of thy Masters honour and safety, their taxes shall be lessened, though their revolt cannot fright us: let all the Greek Prisoners of note be at our banquet that *Osmond* seems we may glory in our triumph over them; *Leo* whisper. some of their deaths wee'l honour with our presence.

These are base traitorous, betrayers of their country, self-murtherers by their owne avarice, away with them, and let the Souldier exercise his rage upon them.

*Enter Osmond and Despina:*

*Pri.* We are justly punished.

*Os.* Dread Lord, behold a present which the meanest of your slaves intends to make you.

*Mel.* Ist a boy or a woman, unvaile and shew me?

*Os.* Sir, a while your pardon, untill I let you know that ignorantly I part not with this jewell, for I so well do understand the value, that were the citty-spoiles laid in one ballance, the Empire too, and but this in the other, nay an assurance of a happy reigne added to that, and on the other side but to enjoy this creature (to whom no attribute of excellence can be given high enough) one year, here were my choice.

*Mel.* *Osmond*, tho I have lov'd thee of a child, yet doe not tempt that frown that's death: think not that state that I am now possesst of, admitts any comparison of happiness, yet not content with this thou dost contemne my fortune; shew me that argument of thy presumption, though excellent, but if not worthy our longing expectation, perhaps the cause of thy destruction: Majestie delights not to be plaid with.

*Os.* Pardon, dread sir, that man who shall affirme he hath an humbler soul towards great *Melcoshus* then *Osmond*, I dare him to the triall with this sword or faithfuller, which makes me fir assure you, you are in danger of your liberty, see not her face, for t'is a woman so farre Ile warne you, a weeping one, untill you doe withall consider shee's your slaves slave, I meane my prisoner: were she less worthy, she had been my Mistress, but being thus excellent who can deserve to look on her but you, let her be covered still, for if I draw this vaile, you then must yeeld, the thought of all your glory's



ries laid aside, and in her heavenly eyes read your aptivity.

*Mel. Osmond*, I see thou doatest thy selfe, and thinkest we must doe so: delay no longer. (*he unvailes her.*)

*Osmond*. Prepare then for a bondage which will bring delight above all freedome.

*Mel.* More, more, by all my glories, than was delivered! *Osmond* so well I like, cover her <sup>gives him his</sup> face lest I doe surfet with beholding, <sup>hand to kisse.</sup> nor must the vulgar equall me in such a happines; my envie makes me finde a torture for my selfe. Off with that vail, the meanest of creatures may behold the Sun; and as his beames in showry *April* breakes through the clouds, so does the lightening of her glorious eyes breake through their watery circle, and grow more powerfull by that opposition; so powerfull, that a conquering Prince descends his throne and beggs that hee may heare you, whom fortune hath made his slave, yet to command both him and fortune; for sure your tongue cannot be lesse powerfull then your eyes.

*Des.* Ah me unhappie *Despina*.

*Mel.* Divinest creature! rise and know thy happines, thou shalt command *Melcoshus*, King of the *Tartars*, who not content with that, intends to make all *Asia* the subject of his victories.

*Haly.* Sir, feare and amazement have not yet forsook her, let her be kept by your Eunuchs, till time and they make her more capeable of your desires.

*Mel.* Thou counselest well, see it perform'd: but let entertainment be such as may most delight, and soonest free her from her grief, I shall but languish till I may enjoy her.

*Osmond.* Lady, you may boldly promise to your selfe all joy the earth affords.

*Des.* The Gods reward your piety in saving of my life and honour; but joy be ever far from me.

*Haly, Despina.*

A 4

*Exeunt  
Mel.*

6 *Olmond the great Turke, or,*

*Mel.* Tell me thou noble youth, how didst thou finde this glorious creature, and what her name is?

*Os.* Shee calls her selfe *Despina*, I found her so neere being unworthy of me to give, or you to accept, that being saved it does encrease her value; Two Souldiers being fir'd with lust, strove which should first enjoy her, but seeing her a creature of such excellence, I thought my soveraigne only worthy her embraces, and she a fit present for me to offer, which made me to oppose them both; and my intention being nobler gave victory to my weake arme, aided by this your guift.

*Mel.* Had they not perished so, they should have found a death with studied torments; name some Province thy reward.

*Os.* Other reward then your acceptance would marke me for the server of your pleasure, an Eunuches office, and soyle my act of dutie: when I shall overthrow an enemy in field, or in some doubtfull battaile guard your sacred person then Sir, advance me to some honor if you please, for so I shall become the powerfuller to serve you; but for *Despina* thinke not of any recompence to me, for, by the Gods, the Empire were too little, did not my love and adoration of your sacred person force me to think she was created for You, not for a subject.

*Mel.* This freedome in any other had bin death, in thee it but augments our love, be neere Us.

From whence?

*Enter Messengers.*

*Mes.* From your Sonne *Orcanes* who is arrived.

*Mel.* We have already appointed *Callibens* for his hoast, to morrow he shall kisse Our hand. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Callibens.*

*Cal.* Our Great *Cham* out of his love appoints his son *Orcanes* to be my guest; this were an honour I confesse  
to

to one that were not old and had a beautionous wife, such as my *Ozaca* is: but when the Prince shall view her, and see him, their very eyes shall speake to my dishonour, & conclude me a Cuckold in their desires, though they should nere converse. He let her know his coming hither, and from her behaviour gather how she approves of it: *Ozaca*.

*Enter Ozaca.*

*Ozaca*. Your will.

*Cal*. *Ozaca*, the Prince *Orcanes* will strait bee here, he for whose sake 'tis thought nature wil turne a bankrupt, she hath in every part of him so plaid the prodigall; his face such as might make you take him for the beautifullest of women; yet through that beauty shines his fathers spirit Great *Meltothus* [how her blood boyles!] a personage equall to that; but then so courteous, though a Prince & eloquent with all, that every woman that but heares him speak, modestly throwne by, woes him to acts of love, in which he far outgoes belief [by all my hopes my feares are true, I see a lustfull languishing in her eyes] speak *Ozaca*, could you not be content (I being absent) to pass an hour in conference upon your couch with this young Prince, speake, could you not, ha?

*Oza*. Oh sir, your needlesse jealousies doe make me miserable, but your selfe more.

*Cal*. I see thy heart, strumpet, and it writes a resolution to dishonour me, and so revenge that which thou call'st a needlesse jealousy in me; but, by our sacred Prophet, if thou shalt see this Prince except by chance, He pull thy eyes out; if converse with him, thy tongue; or write, thy hand is forfeit;

*Oza*. I finde I am a woman, I long extremely, & *A-* they say indeed hee's wondrous handsome, and *side*. I have heard, seeing by chance my picture, he did not contemne my beauty.

*Cal*. It shall be so, goe walke in the back garden I charge

8 *Olmond the great Turk, or,*  
charge you, till I send for you. I would not have him  
see her, nor see him, no not at a window: it may bee  
the Emperor will send him away ere long, but should  
he see *Ozaca*, I feare he would never leave my house:  
about this houre I expect him. *Exit.*

*Enter Orcanes and Hosa.*

*Ho.* My Lord, you see this back way, you are free  
from the multitude of people, by whom I would not  
have you seen, till you appeare to morrow like your  
selfe; I have sent to advertise your host *Callibens*, that  
you are entred this way by the back-garden.

*Orc.* Tis well; they say this *Cham* is most extreamely  
jealous of his wife, we shall not see her sure.

*Enter Ozaca.*

*Ho.* Shee's wondrous handsome, he hath reason--

*Oza.* O that I might but see this Prince.

*Orc.* Whose's that, sure 'tis the Lady of the house.

*Oza.* My wish-- 'tis certainly the Prince, He seeme to  
goe away.

*Orc.* Nay, fly not Lady:

*Oza.* If y<sup>e</sup> are the Prince *Orcanes* which I beleeve, my  
duty is a warrant for my stay.

*Orc.* Lady, I am *Orcanes* who come to be your  
guest. *(Shee unvailles.)*

*Oza.* Sir, that assurance warrants me this further ex-  
pression of my duty.

*Orc.* The Painter was a niggard of his skill, or grosse-  
ly ignorant that drew your picture, but Art must ever  
yeeld to Nature in a peice so excellent, and come far  
short, since 'tis but imitation. Rise beautious Lady, my  
father would not suffer this.

*Enter Callibens.*

*Cal.* Hell and confusion, what's this I see; peace, hee's  
thy Sovereign's.

*Oza.* My husband.

*Cal.* Behold your humble servant, who yeelds up the  
power



power both of himselfe and all that's his to your command.

*Or.* Thanks, *Callibens*.

*Cal.* I am sorry your Highness came the worst way into the house.

*Or.* I did it to avoid the press of people, but trust me I found the passage very pleasant.

*Calli.* He meanes his kissing you, but, whoore, thou hast a life to lose.

*Or.* I never saw a Garden where I received greater content, the Roses and the Lillies are so finely mixt, that I could stand a yeere onely to gaze on them.

*Cal.* By *Mahomet*, he meanes the beauty of my wife; which is my curse, Oh that she were a *Negro*.

*Or.* What's that you say, a *Negro*.

*Cal.* I say my Lord, those flowers you like were planted by a *Negro*, a skilfull Gardiner.

*Or.* There are some other rarities, that I would praise, but that I want words to expresse them, they are so excellent, I wish I did possesse some such.

*Cal.* Palpable, by all my feares: she conceaves his meaning too, and with the joy of it, I see her lustfull heart leap in her bosome. but hush: wil't please your highnesse enter the house.

*Or.* The superstitious More, *Callibens*, does not behold the rising sun with greater reverence, than I his setting in a bright evening like to this: who knowes when we shall have the comfort of his glorious beames againe? either some envious clouds may interpose themselves betwixt us; that bright planet, jealous that we are not enough thankfull may withdraw his comfortable heat, without which I would not wish to live.

*Cal.* 'Tis true indeed, the Sun gives life to all and the most witty and industrious men make great profit by him; those who prepare the soyle, & apt it for his beames receive greatest increase. Your highness, I feare, takes  
occasion

occasion by the Evenings brightness to excuse your entring under so mean a rooffe; but since the great *Cham* appointed you my guest to honour me; goe *Ozaca*, and let the diligence of Servants strive to supply every defect, Ile send way the Sun he meanes.

*Or.* Nay, *Callibeus*, I would not have you thinke that we misdoubted your lodging or entertainment, wee'll enter when you please, there is a cloud ready to oppose it selfe betwixt the Sun and us. *Exit Orcanes.*

*Cal.* The Prince in his discourse makes the Sun his bawd, his father I think did intend to torture me, no house but mine, you must be walking, whoore, and entertaine the Prince, but by our prophet thou shalt see no Sun. *Exeunt Omnes.*

*Finis Actus primi.*

## Actus Secundus.

*Enter Despina and an Eunuch.*

*Des.* What shall I say, I finde I am a weake unconstant woman, sure I have lost my selfe, at least my grief; how pleasure and greatnesse gaines upon our natures! I who wept at first each time their Eunuchs did me reverence, thinking they mockt me, now take a great delight in their observance: sent you for *Osmond*?

*Eunuch.* He waits without to know your pleasure, tho sildome hath been permitted by the great *Cham* that any should enter here, but he intends not to denie you any thing.

*Enter Osmond.*

*Des.* Bring him in and leave us.

*Os.* Thus low as to my Princes Mistrefs! what was it you intended?

*Des.* That which civility tied me to, the offer of my lipps, and not my roabe to kifs, you sav'd my honour,

a modest kiss to you could not impaire it then.

*Osm.* Should I have kiss you & been seen, death was my sure reward, nor had the purchase been too deare, if so I had not been a traitor to my selfe and vertue in my disloyaltie unto my prince.

*Des.* Thinke it no immodesty in me but ignorance of your strict customes: a salutation amongst Christians breeds no suspicion of ill.

*Osm.* Did ever any under the degree of a prince receive that honor?

*Des.* They have if you call that an honor.

*Osm.* Then it cannot bee in me presumption to kisse your hand, yet I in this too farre doe stretch my dutie.

*Des.* You Tartars beare a greater reverence to your earthly Lords then Christians, though you neglect him that should bee most honor'd; but this is from the cause I sent for you: In all that you have done or said that did concerne me, if I be not an ill observer of mans passion you have exprest a love not to be equall'd, withall so great a spirit, that even in midst of all my griefs your merits found a passage to my heart, and tho I see I shall be able to command *Melcoshus*, and in him the world, yet if you dare applie your courage to the performance of what I shall offer, and that effected become a Christian, I shall thinke my selfe happy, to be againe wholly at your disposing, as I was when you did unkindly to your selfe and mee, bestow me on another.

*Enter Melcoshus.*

*Osm.* The Great Cham.

*Exit Osmond.*

*Mel.* *Despina*, accuse thy owne excellence that makes me interrupt thy privacies, rather then me; for I so wholly am become thine, that but to live a minute from thee is a torment; Say beautie abstract, shall this day be more favourable then many that are past, may he who can command all, yet hope to obtaine his suite?

*Des.*

*Des.* Could you command all, you would command that passion in your selfe, which makes you strive to ruine my honor.

*Mel.* Can it be ruine to your honor, to set you on the highest point of honor, to make you the possessor and disposer of all that your imagination can propose.

*Des.* How can this be, when I cannot dispose of my poore unworthy self; give me my libertie.

*Mel.* You should have libertie, were you what you alleadge, unworthy; but it is your inestimable value, makes you a prisoner; what all Poets have fain'd sweet or lovely in other women, is truth in you; these doe so tie you to my heart, that should I grant you libertie, you would beare it a long, so all the empire should be govern'd by a heartless man; yet bribe me with one loving kisse and I trie. With how much scorne you turne awaie. I wrong that power that's given me from above, it was ordain'd I should command, not sue to any. Woman, beautiful woman, for more thou art not, what ere my dotage makes thee thinke thy selfe, consider I who may command, entreate, but if refus'd the violence of my affection will compell me to use force.

*Des.* I know you will not, you have too much prais'd *Osmond* for relieving me from rape, your selfe now to performe it; tho you now seem cruell, yet doe I hope you are just, for I have heard the world esteem you so.

*Mel.* The act will not be wholly mine; your not to be-resisted beautie first made a rape on me, inforcing me to love you; that love made me desire to enjoy the happines of your embraces, which you denying reason steps into right my wrong'd affection, and bids me force you, assuring mee, that nature who does nought in vaine, had never taken such paines in framing you so sweet and lovely, but that shee meant some one or other should enjoy that sweetnes; and shall I so farre yield to any others merit, or wrong my fortune which bestow'd



bestow'd you on me, as not to think I am the happy man appointed by wise nature to enjoy you; the Gods cannot in justice, after so great victories, appoint Melcholus the office of a slave to be the keeper of such daintie fruit for any other man, and hee him-  
 selfe not taste it; no I have lost too many  
 { *Hee Offers violence.*  
 houres of pleasure, and will no longer suffer my selfe to be tormented more then *Tantalus*, for he was forc't to fast, but foolishly I starve having my hands at libertie, and in my power that which will satisfie beyond expression.  
 (*aside.*)

*Des.* Oh Sir, consider er'e you goe about a deed of so much basenes, how will this ranke amongst your noble acts to be a murderer, for doe not thinke I will out live my fame; for your owne sake be wise then, if you love mee, and do not rob your selfe of the content you may hereafter finde, if you take noble waies and make my heart yours, then you may have a lasting pleasure  
 { *Aside.*  
 now the deed once done will bring repentance  
 ever.

*Mel.* Who would not threaten rape to heare such prettie arguments against it. No *Despina* I have no facultie which is not more obedient to thy will then to my owne, each threatening word I utter'd was to my selfe a torment: dry those bright eyes that never shall have use of tears againe, if not for their own crueltie against *Melcholus*; consider but my power, and thy owne beautie which would inflame old age, and from thy justice my temperance must needs find some reward.

*Des.* If thus you woe mee, I dare not say but time and womans weaknes may make me love you, and for your this daies temperance, this kisse be your reward.

*Mel.* I am transported, force can bring no such pleasure, kisse mee againe and by our Prophet, it shall seal your honors freedome by an oath: my blood is fir'd, one  
 such

such kisse more would make me breake that promise, for making which this kisse was given me.

*Des.* Oh Sir.

*Mel.* But feare not, base passion shall not overthrow my wise and nobler resolutions, for since I love you as you are altogether excellent, I must enjoy *Despina*, not *Despina's* person onely that's not halfe your selfe; I will not looke on you, your eies tho chaste may more encrease my lust, which my minds pure love makes me now know to be a crime;

And hold our Prophet *Mahomet* unjust,  
That made no lawes against a Princes lust. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Orcanes and Hofa.*

*Orc. Hofa:* is *Callibeas* gone to court?

*Hof.* Hee is my Lord.

*Orc.* Is there no meanes thinkst thou to see his wife?

*Hof.* It is impossible, his jealousie makes him set spies in every corner.

*Orc.* I see thou art not read in tricks of love, I have made use of all that art and nature hath bestowed upon me; youth and beauty what woman can resist? or were these wanting, yet a Princes name is a powerfull advocate, I never yet laid siege to any semall Fort, but either by assault or policie I found a way to conquest yet am I carefull of their honors I enjoy, and so dissemble my affection, that each Lady thinkes I onely am her servant; would my youth and beautie ever last, I would not wish to change the life I lead now, to enjoy the Kingdome; altho my father possesse the greatest beautie of the world, yet is it not by stealth: securitie takes from the pleasure 'tis dull so to enjoy a beautie.

*Hof.* You'l finde your present taske full of difficulcie if you delight in that, I do not think you'l ever see her more, *Callibeus* having taken notice of your love.

*Orc.* He sees, but will not say he sees, being my father's

Slave

slave, he dares not find the least fault: me thinkes shee should corrupt some Eunuch that attends her, or from her window drop a letter to expresse the love I am surē shee beares me.

*Hofa.* How are you sure she loves you?

*Orc.* Sure she loves me, as sure as if she had told me so, nay, surer; her eyes spoak plainly, which I will trust in women more then their tongue: but I am so experienced, I cannot well misse in either.

*Enter Eunuch.*

*Eun.* My Lady doth intreat your Highnesse, not to walk before her window for, if my Lord return, and see you, he'l be with her offended.

*Orc.* Return, and tell your Lady, I shall be ready to obey any command of hers, though to my own torment.

*Eun.* I shall.

*Hof.* Sir, it appears, she loves you { *Call beus above*  
not by this, else she would take de- { *drops a Letter:*  
light to look on you.

*Orc.* This letter lay not here, last turn we made; before I open it, to let thee see, I am the Master of my Art, though here's no superscription, I now tell you, this Letter is to me, and from *Ozaca*, full of affection too.

*Hof.* I shall another time believe you, if't be; retire your selfe here out of sight, and read it.

*Orc.* The Sun, though clouded by jealousie, { *The*  
will shine again; not onely to warm; but { *Letter:*  
inflame, if it have power, those who seem to take comfort in his beams. If a reciprocall fire be kindled expresse it not in words--- Here's wit; *Hofa*, besides beauty. No fair *Ozaca*; not in word, but thus I do expresse my zeal. *Hofa*, shee's at the window, but dares not open it, for the *Eunuch*. I have a plot, which thou  
B must

must needs assist me in, and then shee's mine, spight of her husbands jealousy.

*Enter Callibeus, and Eunuch.*

*Call.* How in silence he wooed her, and thanks was given for her Letter, as he thought. Was't not a good device in me, to be assured of his intentions; he shall break through forty doores, ere he plant here. Now to *Ozaca*, which I removed into another Chamber, whilst I supplied her place.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Osmond with a Letter.*

*Osmond.* It was a happy fate, that brought the Empe-  
rour so to crosse my yielding; how could I have re-  
sisted such a motion, coming from her that I adore.  
Let me consider, become a Christian, flie, and marry  
me: What a temptation's this? I gave this Beauty to  
*Melcoshus*, and shall I childishly recall my gift, nay,  
basely steal the jewell of his life, in whom the King-  
domes weal consists? 'twere unexampled treason. Hence  
thou enticing charme, whose witchcraft almost does  
enforce me, to forsake my faith and vertue. Stay, be-  
come a Christian, that's but to be as she is; and can the  
heavens be cruell to such, such, sweetnesse? shall not  
their providence preserve what they have fram'd so  
excellent, and me, for serving her? Say I forsake our  
Prophet, and trust upon that Power which she adores,  
then must I basely flie, forsake *Melcoshus* my dread  
Lord; and what can recompence that losse, or seem a  
plausible excuse for such a falshood? Oh yes, to marry  
fair *Despina*, which she offers, is to be happy in so  
high a nature, that it would stop the mouth of chur-  
lish censure; all would excuse a fault, that brought so  
great contentment to the guilty, as her embraces must  
be.

*Enter*



Enter Melcosinus.

*Mel. Osmond*, thou hast undone me in thy rich gift.

*Os.* How, Sir?

*Mel.* She does, and may, so justly glory in her own purity, that she disdains to mix in love with me; and yet, till her denyall taught me to know I was defective, my very thoughts, much more desires, did never meet a check: Whose wife or daughter that I should covet, would not the husband or glad father bring me? or, if their honour mastered their love or duty, what could resist my power?

*Os.* Nought, but such another excellent creature as *Despina*, she can oppose your will against your power, and make both wait her pleasure.

*Mel.* Oh *Osmond*! could she be equal'd, my love and admiration would grow lesse; but as it is, I languish in desire, and must do ever: Should I use force, my royall word were broke to her, whose good opinion I strive more to gain, than all the world's; and by those Christian vertues that she proposes too, Faith and Temperance.

*Os.* Sir, since you finde so much affliction, would I had never presented her.

*Mel. Osmond*, thou art a traitor in thy wish, and nothing could preserve thee from my rage, but that thou didst what now thou wisht thou hadst not; should my beloved son *Orcanes* but say, he wish'd, that I had never seen *Despina*, by *Mahomet*, his life were forsoit: For, though I for the present finde some torment in her denyalls, yet, by one smile, she may advance me to a happinesse, above all earthly Motives; what will her kisses do then, I mean, when she shall give them freely, uncompell'd, transport me from my selfe, the meer imagination does almost perform it; and see, amazement leave me, that I may expresse

preſſe ſome part of the content I feel, in viewing this dear object, thus to approach me, ſmiling, nay, as if ſhe meant to make me happy, by commanding ſomething.

*Enter Deſpina.*

*Deſ.* I am indeed a ſuitor, but cannot hope I ſhall prevail: yet, piety commands me to make tryall, ſince 'tis for ſome of my religion, and your enemies.

*Mel.* Though they had plotted againſt my life, I freely pardon them; you cannot ask me that I will not grant you; and in your ſervant, all that's mortall ſhall obey you: nay, *Mahomet* himſelfe ſhall ceaſe to be adored, if he be not aſſiſtant to your wiſhes.

*Deſ.* I have no further ſuit, onely let *Osmond* ſee performed, what I ſhall now direct him.

*Mel.* On thy allegiance, *Osmond*, that, and all ſhe ſhall command thee: elſe: with greater care, and more devotion, I ſhould perform it than ere I offered yet at *Mecha*.

*Deſ.* The Emperour ſpeaks, dear *Osmond*, as if he knew what I intend to command you.

*Ofm.* Divineſt Lady, what's the occaſion, wherein your trembling Vaſſail may expreſſe his care and duty.

*Enter Haly.*

*Deſ.* Dear *Osmond*, look not pale, nor ſhake ſo, but mark thoſe few words, which this ſhort time will ſuffer me to ſpeak. I ſo much love thee, that again I offer to ſlie, now when opportunity preſents it ſelfe: For, my ſuit unto *Melchius*, which you muſt ſee performed, is, to ſet free a Chriſtian Merchant, with his ſhip and men, with whom, we being both diſguiſed, may ſcape away; or ſhould we be diſcovered, to die would not much grieve me. Your answer in a word.

*Ofm.* Could paradife be gained by crooked paths, I would

would not tread them. I grant, to be your husband, were to enjoy a heaven upon earth; for the danger in attaining that, would but add unto the happiness. I should a thousand times repent me of my gift, did not he prize you to your value, if it be possible; but since he does, and only can continue you in your full lustre, making you shine a wonder to the world, far be it from the thought of *Osmond*, to yield so far to passion, as to destroy his Masters happiness, and his own faith. For you, if you shall but in thought continue this designe, the Gods will punish you, for offering to oppose their fixt decrees, since 'tis apparent by your equall merits, you onely were appointed for *Melcohus*, and he for you.

*Desp.* Do you refuse me then?

*Mel.* Ha! dares *Osmond* expect to live, after refusing what he shall command.

*Osmond.* I do not wish it, Sir.

*Desp.* My passion made me to forget, Sir. *Osmond* is the noblest of your servants, and ready to obey me.

*Mel.* To shew the power you have o're me, I freely pardon him, nor shall your commendations light in vain on any much less on *Osmond*; I here create thee *Bascha* of *Aleppo*.

*Osmond.* Sir, you will but in this, forestall my future services, and rob me of desert to climb by a way I rather should have wish'd to tread. But when I do consider, Madam, 'tis your praise, no other womans, that advances me, it shewes, my merit was not small, since I attain'd your good opinion, which fully satisfies.

*Desp.* 'Tis nobly said of *Osmond*; yet, since his denyall, I look on him with other eyes. *Melcohus* greatness, and his love exceeding that, makes some impression in me. [Flourish.]

*Mel.* Say thou bright Angell, is there ought wherein *Melcohus* may expresse his love.

*Desp.* Your humble vassail's too much honour'd ,  
who rather does deserve your frown for her pre-  
sumption. [Masque.]

*Mel.* There are some sports, which you perchance  
have heretofore deigned to behold. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Haly, two Captaines. (Florish.)*

*Ha'.* You see the Emperour throwes by all care of  
Subjects , addicting himself wholly to pleasure ; daies,  
weeks, and months he spends with *Despina* , that pain-  
ted Sorceresse ; and when he heares of any revolted  
Province , or of preparing enemies , he asks , how fair  
*Despina* slept that night , affirming , that in her alone ,  
was losse or victory. Revolt of subjects ! I oft have heard  
him wish , that all his subjects love were turned to  
hate, so that his goddesse would but favour him : Was't  
not a Kingly wish ?

*1. Cap.* 'Tis strange, our Emperour should thus  
doat upon a captive, a Christian too.

*Hal.* Aye, fellow souldiers ; but consider to what  
a passe we now are grown , to be thus governed ; we,  
who have power to make the world ours , all Kings  
obey us, thus to be led to ruine, nay, to a ruine that we  
see apparent : I dare not say, but I could wish , that we  
did not quite forget the power of Souldiers. We had  
power, when 'twas to raise *Melchus* for his vertues.

*Cap.* 'Tis true, his vertues made him Emperour ( ra-  
ther his seeming vertues, more they were not ) and they  
being counterfeit , if we be firm to him that's fallen in-  
to vice and imbecillity, we forsake vertue and our own  
strength : Some in the Camp equall his former worth ,  
then far outgo his present.

*Enter Messenger.*

*Mess.* *Odmer* , and some other of the Captains, will  
streight be here.

*Hal.*



*Hal.* 'Tis well, I know you are friends to those that love the Souldier; for my part, I will not promise much, yet, if the gods shall breed a change, and think me worthy of advancement, vertue shall steer me wholly.

1. *Cap.* We know it shall, most noble *Haly*; and when the time growes ripe, expect our utmost aid.

2. *Cap.* Wee'l not be found here, lest *Odmer* should suspect our friendship to you; wee'l rather seem to come by accident, hearing of his being here. *Exeunt Cap.*

*Hal.* You shal do well: By seeming vertuous, I have the faith corrupted of many others in the Army; but these, though they perceive that I aspire, yet for their own ends, they'l assist my plots, pretending, as if { *A*  
we believ'd each other vertuous. Love to our { *Table.*  
Country moves us; yes, as much as it does the Crocodile, that laments that creature, which she means to make her prey. How e're, *Melchissus* is careful of the souldiers good, and most ambitious of their love. I have so wrought upon them by flattery, that he not once suspects, how they distaste his easie pleasant life, their bane; nor shall he know't, untill the errour ruine him, in all opinion, and make me powerfull. I will observe and flatter him in smallest things, all must run smooth and even; he shall not see, at least not hear, a discontented man, yet underhand, by injuries, I'll make the greatest so; then by my instruments so work them, that they shall fix their eyes on me as their sole remedy, being the only man that loves his Country. True, the masque of vertue I put on, must be worn cunningly indeed. *Odmer*, that Fox too I must ruine, by his own honesty and faith unto his Prince; I cannot be secure of any plot whilst he hath breath, and here he comes.

*Enter Odmer and Captains.*

*Odmer.* According to your desire I am come and pray *Mahomet* our present meeting may produce some happy issue for the good of our Sovereign,

*Ha.* Amen, good *Odmer*, sit, sit, most noble friends, you the Pillars of the Empire, upon which the huge *Colossus* of our Princes same was rail'd : here is not at this Table ( I to my comfort speake it to be so honour'd ) a man that does not merit to lead himselfe an Army, I being exenipted. What victory did our *Melchobus* get, that some brave Arme here did not act wonders, I dare not say equall to what he did? yet to continue doing bravely still, is fair for Souldiers : for Kings sometimes slack in their worth. But Ours you'l say is gracious, carefull of the State and souldiers.

*Od.* I know not what they'l say, but I must say so, and withall add if you think not so too, you are a flatterer : for have not I heard *Haly* with faire words smoothe o're the errors of the King small in themselves at first, but by your conformation still continued not amended, as not thought wrongfull actions.

*Ha.* I grant good *Odmer* when I have seene the Emperour inraged not to be contradicted but with danger, I have applied my selfe to serve his humour for the present, hoping my reason afterwards might better overthrow his error, when it should be forsaken by his passion, nor fail'd I of't ; but were it not madness in any that should tell him, that this his dotage on *Despina* makes him neglect his office : how all the Souldiers that have any spirit or sense of their vast wrongs talke of electing them another Emperour who better shall distinguish betwixt their honour'd scarrs, and upstart Ignorants, who ne're shed drop of Enemies blood

blood, or had their own spilt to advance his glory? would you have me tell him this, though all yet know, this is truth.

*Od.* Though I know this is false, how e're opinion sway the envious and ignorant; yet did you think it true; were you true subjects you would tell it him: but he that fears his losse of life more then his loss of faith and honour, thinks no reward can equall such a hazard.

2. *Cap.* Then *Odmer*, yo'u would seem as if your faith and love so far transport you, bove your reason that you durst tell the Emperour this.

*Ha.* No *Odmer*, were 'follic.

*Od. Haly*, to you it may appeare so; but may *Odmer* be as cold in duty as you, and find what it deserves, some heavy punishment: if he do not make known e're long, unto his Soveraigne how he dayly loses his Souldiers love, for that I grant is truth though undeserv'd from him; for he hath still desir'd to give them all their dues, nay bin more liberall then his Ancestors how ere false servants and corrupted ministers have deceiv'd his trust: the sweetest and most plentious springs passing through noysome and straight passages may lose their comfortable qualities; even you my Lord (I must be plaine) have wrought your selfe to such a power by the advantage of your birth and his imploying you that all depend on you more then on him: all that you think will please the Souldiers you make your Act, the Emperour by you induc'd to it, and by you perform'd; but what may give them cause of murmur or discontent, that you give out that you perswade him from: thus doe you rob him of his greatest wealth the Souldiers love, and in the stead of it procure their hatred for him, which justly you deserve. But would that tyrant, Love, release him, that he might shew himselfe againe in Armes, and look about him, he soon would

would know, that *Haly* his most trusted counsellour hath abused his trust, whilst he hath bin fast lull'd asleep with pleasure.

*Ha. Zealous Odmer*, what you have spoke might seeme an injurie not to be borne, to those that did not know us both : who would think I could suffer in my own house my loyaltie thus to be call'd in question nay condemn'd ? for you have spoke no lesse then what might brand me for a Traitor. But know good *Odmer* your zeale thrice heated by your envy, to see me greater then your selfe not only in my place but in the souldiers love, can no way findg my reputation, or make my faith mistrusted by my Prince ; and since I know you cannot hurt, my own power garding me, but most that innocence which I have ever borne as the best shield against all slanders ; I am so farre from being angry, that I profess I love you, and will advise you for your honours sake, which else might suffer since you are honest *Odmer* To tell the Emperour all things are amiss ; the greatest danger that can arise to you, he being of a gentle nature, will be but strangling ; or, may be, for the kind office you shall take upon you to be his tutor, (for it was never known that any yet counsel'd him unask'd ) his fauchion may be imployed that he may view your brains who would be wiser then your Lord.

*1. Cap. Faith Odmer*, tell him : my Lord counsel's well.

*Ha.* First let him know (my faults) if you intend I should be punish't ; you'l have no time when you have told him (his.)

*Of. Haly*, you speak to me in scorne ; but I perchance shall doe that which would fright thee even to death onely to think on't.

*Ha. Odmer*, your blood is stir'd and you are angry.

*Of.* If thou hadst given me any reall cause, this place



place, nor these, should not protect thee; but since I know thy plotting brain to be thy only weapon, thou canst not move me, and so I leave you. *Exit.*

2. *Cap.* My Lord, will you endure this?

*Ha.* Let him alone, the honest fool is running to his ruine.

1. *Cap.* As how, what danger?

*Hal.* Danger enough, *Melcoshus* frown, for he'll inform him what he hath promised.

1. *Cap.* By *Mahomet*, he dares not.

*Ha.* He will, I know his humour best, or if you please to call it simple honesty, you may, which I have wrought upon by opposing; so shall his faith serve my aspiring ends.

*Odmer* once sacrificed for truth, who'll be *Melcoshus's* friends? *Exeunt.*

*Enter Orcanes and Callibeus.*

*Or.* 'Tis strange, my Father should so doat. I thought in time, the force of his affection would have abated; but on the contrary, his love increases, never was such a change. What poor things are we, when our lust hath once overthrown our reason! that any man of spirit should so far yield to passion, as to become his captives captive! and all this coyle onely for obtaining that, which in the enjoying does not yield a minutes pleasure: How happy am I, that have no such desires.

*Enter Hofa.*

*Cal.* Oh hypocrite!

*Orc.* Have you done what I bad you?

*Hof.* Yes, you shall see the effects on't immediately.

*Orc.* The truth is; our Lawes gives us too great a liberty that way; how much better were it, might every

ry man onely enjoy one woman? for, lust doth both corrupt the bodies and the souls of men.

*Cal.* What means this seeming sanctity? it does indeed my Lord, it is a most ugly vice, though to the great ones tolerated.

*Orc.* I do protest, my Father's errour doth so much lessen him from what he was, that I'll forswear the very company of women; bewitching Syrens, that confounds our judgments.

Fire, fire, fire.

[*within.*]

*Cal.* What noise is that, ha, fire!

*Enter Orc. Hosa.*

*Orc.* My Lord, I'll to the Court this morning.

*Finis Actus secundi.*

*Exeunt omnes.*

*Actus tertius.*

*Enter Orcanes and Ozaca.*

*Oz.* Sir, I beseech you think not meanly of me; for Shaving won me thus, thus without parly, I freely must confesse, the force you used did not displease me, whatsoe're I seem'd; for, I did something love you, before mine eyes were blest with viewing your perfections; yet, modesty or fear to be contemned, would have for ever closed my lips.

*Orc.* Why, fair *Ozaca*, did not you by a Letter dropt from your window one day make me know my happineffe, in your requitall of affection, in the same phrase, to that I spoke at first in, to let you know, I was your servant, though your husband then were present, I doubting a second opportunity.

*Oz.* Alas, my Lord, I did not know your meaning, if you spoke to that effect; but it may be, my husband prompted by a just fear, did understand you; for you  
are

are made up of sweetnesse, that might tempt an angell.

*Orc.* My behaviour gave him no cause of suspicion  
sure.

*Oz.* His jealousie proceeding from his excesse of  
love to me, made him believe, it seemes, I was an ob-  
ject worthy of your eye, when indeed the god of love  
pittyng my silent languishing, did rather wound you,  
to shew his power, than that my beauty could command  
affection from one, so far in all respects above me: And  
if you did receive any Letter to that effect, he writ it  
as from me, none else durst have presumed.

*Orc.* 'Tis certain, and he himselfe hath been the un-  
happy happy instrument, to make me now enjoy the  
miracle of nature; for, had I not been so encourag'd by  
that Letter, I should not have thus ventured on this  
rash attempt, of firing the house.

*Oz.* Sweet Prince, I fear some jealous pang may  
take my husband, and he return before the fire be  
quenched, and finde you; at least the Eunuch may.

*Orc.* Shall I then so soon leave you?

*Oz.* Oh yes, you must; yet do not, except you every  
day could set a Garden-house on fire; for, without  
some such extraordinary means, we hardly shall again  
enjoy each others company, which how sweet it is to  
me, let this kisse witnesse, being more then ever yet I  
offered to my husband.

*Orc.* Let us not part, what danger can be equall to  
this happinesse? By *Mahomet*, I ne're till now did find  
content with any woman. Why should a subject be thus  
blest. Let this make all my other conquests be forgot-  
ten, over other women; for I am now what  
I have often seem'd, but never was in earnest, in  
Love, nay taken after the enjoying. [*knock within*]

*Oz.* Oh me, we are undone, one knocks, I fear my  
husband's. Confusion on them.

*Cal.* Ho *Ozaca*, Ho *Ozaca*,

*Oz.*

*Oz.* 'Tis he: what will become of me?

*Orc.* Spare those tears, or rather let them fall to save your honour, by seeming, as if I had used violence. To say, that I at all have not injur'd you, were to no purpose, he'll ne're believe it: Put your selfe in such a posture, as may beget belife. My birth shall save me from all danger; or should I perish, so I save your honour, it matters not.

*Enter Callibcus.*

*Cal.* What, asleep *Ozaca*, and such a fire. I'll use my private key. The Prince! now, all the furies, had the house been burnt, ay, all the house, nay, all that's in't, my selfe, I had been far lesse miserable. For ever let all comfort cease, *Ozaca* is a strumpet, I am dishonour'd, the boyes will hoot at me as I passe the street. Sensibly I feel my selfe transformed from man to beast.

*Orc.* Thou'rt too much honour'd slave: that I should take so much pains, and onely once enjoy that, which thou maist possess at ease, and often! For her, she is so far from being a strumpet, that shee's chaster in thought then thou couldst with her, how e're her person suffered violence. Behold an object, if any thing could move me to repent so soon of that, wherein I lately took such pleasure, those lovely cheeks bath'd in her tears, my friends it seemes, who by their quantity, would wash from off her face those bloody stains, the witneses of my rude act.

*Oz.* Hence from me, Serpent.

*Cal.* Oh, leave my house, lest I forget you are *Melchus* son: but for thee, strumpet.

*Orc.* Build not on my ill laid foundation, make not the rape I have committed, the cause of any future injuries to her, for so you shall on me lay greater weights of sin, which I'll revenge on thee. And Lady, though I know I do appear to you a devill, nay worse;  
yet,



yet, when you shall consider your own beauty, you'll excuse me something.--- What, spit at me { *spits at*  
being your Prince; nay, then I know my { *him*.  
crime was hainous; your eyes too, that may give life  
to others, like to the *Basilisks*, do strike me dead.  
Remember *Callibens*. *Exit*.

*Cal*. Abus'd and threatned! I am too tame, I'll af-  
ter him; rather, revenge me on this whore that did al-  
lure him.

*Oz*. Do, you cannot add unto my misery: I am  
already made unworthy of your bed, dishonour'd,  
ravish'd; and you that should revenge the wrong, are  
cold in taking vengeance, though in hot blood: You  
that could let him part, having a sword so neer your  
hand, and such a cause to use it in, will shortly bring  
me to him, nay, be assistant, whilst he ravisht me  
again; but you would rather use it against me than  
him: if so, behold this breast, sometime the subject of  
your praise; imploy it then, and take away the cause  
of your dishonour; No? give it me { *she offers to put*  
then, and you shall see--- { *out his sword.*

*Cal*. Hold, what wouldst thou do?

*Oz*. Free my selfe from misery, since you refuse to  
do it.

*Cal*. *Ozaca*, I confesse I was too cold in my re-  
venge; indeed I doubted, whether thou hadst yielded  
willingly or not; but now that I do know thy ver-  
ue, and am my self collected by my reason, I finde in-  
deed, there was no cause of jealousy in thee at all,  
how e're my extream love made me suspicious: I shall  
forgive the offence, I hope, nay, 'twas none, since 'twas  
against thy will; and after some small time, receive thee  
to my bed: For my revenge I have a way, that with-  
out blood I'll find my satisfaction.

*Oz*. For that, Sir, as you please; but never will I  
come within your bed, I am not worthy: as a soyl'd  
garment

garment, throw me by, seeing another man hath us'd me.

*Cal.* Not for the world, my *Ozaca*, thou art still worthy.

*Oz.* Too worthy, since *Orcanes* lover, to be enjoy-  
ed by thee. [*Aside.*]      *Exeunt.*

*Enter Melcoshus and Osmond.*

*Mel.* Oh my dear *Osmond*, grant me but one request.

*Os.* you may command, Sir.

*Mel.* Become my partner in the Empire, for thou hast given me more then the whole, in my most kinde *Despina*: for shee's no longer cruell, I have enjoyed her freely, by her own consent, which does expresse more happineffe, then all the tongues of men can utter.

*Os.* You owe me nought for this. When I presented her, then she was coy and cruell; if by your noble usage you have won her to crown your wishes, the debt was due unto your sufferings, and you now are paid, which I rejoyce in.

*Mel.* The joy, my *Osmond*, is so great, that if I do not by communicating delay it something, it will be dangerous.

*Os.* Sir, I believe there is none living, that sooner could conceive your happineffe than I, since none doth more admire and reverence *Despina*. For, were a love from me to her as warrantable, as 'tis from me to you, grounded on vertue, I sure should equall, if not exceed you in affection; nay, could she love again, be happier: for all the love that she can render you, is to your merits and your fortunes due; But if she that's above me shal descend, my happiness beyond yours must extend. This, Sir, I speak only; to let you know, I see the way, which the gods by chance had left open, to my

my happines in *Despina*; but knowing that it was by chaunce, and that they did not intend to any subject such a beautie, I forbore, nay thought my selfe most happie in that they chose me for their instrument to salve the error by presenting you with what they had provided for you, and which it seemes they ment to crowne your conquests with.

*Enter Despina, Hal'y, Captains.*

*Mel. Osmond*, in all thy words and actions thou art perfect: next her that now appears, I do esteeme thee, for if there be one corner in my heart, that is not filld with her, thou dost possesse it, nay thou art mingled with each loving thought of her. Oh my *Despina*, how glorious thou appear'st! the Sunne is but a cold and obscure lampe compar'd with thy two heavenly eies, from whose sparkling fires all that behold except my selfe must perish, but I by their more gentle influence breath-in a temperate pleasant ayre, or should I be consum'd with others, yet 'tis permitted mee to kisse these lips which might restore me: but should this more enflame me, which is possible; yet would those eies produce such pearly drops for their owne crueltie in having so consum'd their faithfullest adorer, that it would quench even their owne fire, and so preserve me still the happiest of men.

*Des.* May I prove worthy of your favours, and in my future love and service make satisfaction for the time of ignorance, and disobedience that's past; my present happines, best makes me see my error.

*Mel.* No more, least I do surfet: had you kill'd my father, nay revild our Prophet the highest crime, this were too much.

*Hal'y.* Our Prophet should have appeared unjust, if he had made *Melcoshus* so farre in worth above all other men, & not rewarded that unequall'd merit: which what  
C could

*Olmond the great Turk, or,*  
 could so well do as this rare creature? The Prince *Or-*  
*canes*:

*Enter Orcanes.*

*Mel.* Now my sonne *Orcanes*, are all things ready for our sports?

*Orc.* Sir, all attend you.

*Mel.* *Orcanes*, tell me hadst thou a beautie like to this, wouldst thou go hunt and leave her tho but for an hower, could all varietie of pleasures els be joynd, and in one minuts time their quintessentiall part enjoy'd, I would not lose her companie that minute: nor wouldst thou, hadst thou once tasted my delights; but as it is, hunt, my *Orcanes*, and in that enjoy the greatest delight of mortalls: but for me, I have pleasure in my divine *Despina*, far above sense, tho sense conuaie it to my understanding, and am immortalizd by my vast joyes?

*Exeunt.*

*Haly.* Was ever such dotage, is this a man to governe us? no, fellow soldiers, no.

1 *Cap.* Hee must not long, if we be men, and have but sense to see our miseries in him, and what a happy people we should be under some other.

*Haly.* Farewell most trustie friends. *Exit.*

2. *Cap.* We shall rule the world, we that are soldiers.

1. *Cap.* Who can tell, *Haly* being advanc'd may grow as lazic.

2. *Cap.* Then downe with him, and choose another.

1. *Cap.* Is that the friendship you beare him?

2. *Cap.* My profit and my pleasure are those with whom I onely keep friendship, nor have you, on my knowledge, any other resolution; eachman pursues his owne desires, there's no such thing as faith left in the world but amongst our Musti.

1. *Cap.* Are they there?

2. *Cap.* Yes, in their bookes, and now and then upon occasion we heare on't,

1. *Cap.*



1. *Cap.* Doe they no more? we speake of vertue too, and seem to shewe our love too't, our present designs are to be sheltred under a pretence of love to our countrie.

2. *Cap.* And so tis, man: come neere, examine these things. *Haly* hath power and will advance us with himselfe, let that satisfie: The Emperour and *Callibens*: stand close, we may perhaunce heare some thing that will availle us the Emperour trusts him much.

*Enter Melcoshus and Callibens.*

*Mel.* Now, *Callibens*, what's the important cause that you thus presse upon my privacies, have you receav'd intelligence of any forraine Enemie, or that our person here at home's in danger; say, if not so, you have presum'd tho we esteeme you much, to rob us of *Despinaes* companie a minute.

*Cal.* Dread Sir, your pardon then, I come for justice.

*Mel.* Justice *Callibens*? to whom is it denied within our kingdome?

*Cal.* The person against whom I must complaine, Sir; is exempted from all punishment, excepting, that which your selfe shall lay upon him.

*Mel.* Name him.

*Cal.* The act, Sir, is so foule that I dare name him, it is your son *Orcanes* whom I accuse as a guistie person, I beseech you look on him, and do me justice; my wife by him is ravish'd, dishonor'd: the lawes of hospitalitie were of no other then onely to performe his wickednes: oh Sir, consider that you lodg'd him in my house and if you punish not, you shall appeare an accessarie.

*Mel.* What prooffe of this?

*Cal.* Oh Sir, too much, I tooke him all most in the violent act; besides he glories in it too.

*Mel.* Degenerate bastard, for could a sonne of mine  
commit

Commit so base an act; had I usd force, where had my joyes in *Despina* bin? but yet I must not seeme; as if did intend to punish, for the injurer is my sonne, the injur'd but my slave.

*Ca.* Oh justice, Sir.

*Mel.* Why *Callibens*; art not thou my slave, and if my son have forc'd thy wife, is shee not more my slave whom thou commandest; twas disobedience, either in her, or thee, that did not offer, what hee was pleas'd to like: he too much honor'd thee, and like a common guest fed of the same dish with thee; go, be gone, and hold thy self happie, that I do not inflict a punishment upon thee, both for the evill thou wisht upon my sonne, and for thy present troubling. *Exit.*

*Calli.* You Gods! is this *Melcoshus* justice, for which he hath bin so renowned? but his fond love hath ruin'd all his vertue: farewell all faith and dutie which hitherto hath bin by me inviolately kept.

*1. Cap.* Lose not this opportunitie, hee's discontented, let's strive to make him ours; my Lord, by accident we overheard your injuries, and grieve so much that we will assist you to redresse them, you know wee still have honor'd you.

*Calli.* I know you are my friends, tis true that I am injurd, past sufferance.

*1. Cap.* We will give you ease.

*Exeunt omnes*

*Finis Actus Tertii*

Actus. Quartus.

Enter Osmond.

*Osmond.* I Was too scrupulous, my dutie did not bind:  
me to give that to another without the  
which I could not live my selfe; 'twas against reason &  
I was drunk with zeale, els I had never done it: I with  
the danger of my life did purchase her, and heaven did  
ratifie, it seem'd, the conquest, since they made, her love  
equallie: shee is not wanting in affection, yet, for ought I  
know, shee now sent for me to tell me; although her per-  
son be the Emperours yet her heart is mine, nay both by  
stealth, this, this corrupt fl. sh & blood would basely have  
me thinke, but vertue & honor which must rule my soul  
tells me these are ignoble thoughts, and ill besit the  
faith of *Osmond*, who allwaies hath applied himselfe  
to vertue, how ever weake in his performances; nay  
something noble bids me arme my selfe so strongly in  
my vertue, that tho she should become a suiter, yet not to  
grant and, by our Prophet if my flesh against my faith  
rebell and shee consent, He free my nobler soul, and  
send this trunck to hell--but all these feares are needles  
for so much goodnes shines in her face that sure her  
heart is far from being emptie rather a magazine from  
whose abundance all that do want, might be supplied  
could they be sensible of their povertie: According to  
your command, behol'd your slave.

Enter Despina.

*Des.* *Osmond* how ere the Emperour, in my command  
ore him, makes all the empire subject to my will, yet if  
you kneele I must not be exempt: for well you know I  
love you.

*Osmond.* I feare.

*Des.* Yet not so as heretofore, tis now a sisterlie  
affection.

*Ofm.* Thanks heaven.

*Def.* Which that I may witnes more then in words accept this from me, not as they in themselves are rich, but as they are made so to you in being my gift; and let them tell you when you look on them, that there is nothing in Despinas power, her faith kept sacred to *Melcoshus*, whom now I in my soul adore, but that you may command as freely, as you might a sister that entirely loves you.

*Ofm.* Vertue I see is ne're without reward : how far I am exalted in this joy above what sin could have produc'd : your pardon, madam, though my thanks come slow, yet they are sure, I am overjoyed and want words to expresse my selfe, not in the riches of what you have given but in your protestation that you love me so, as my owne soul desir'd.

*Def.* The emperour knowes I love you more then any, and is pleas'd it should be so, nor need you keep that distance that all others doe, but freely visit me. I have a suit concerning the releasing some poore prisoners for which you from the Emperour must receave order, who strait will visit me.

*Ofm.* I am too happie to continue long so. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Melcoshus and Odmer.*

*Od.* Did not my love unto your sacred selfe make me preferr dutie before danger, I should as others do in silence onely mourn, the ruines of your state and murderd honor.

*Mel.* Ha.

*Od.* But though I know that he which thus undermines you, hath power to give me death with studied torments, by turning that which loyaltie makes me utter, to rash presumption in your acceptation, yet i'll become a zealous priest and sacrifice my selfe to shew your danger; what though your passion will not  
let



let you reade a faithfull warning writ in my bloody intralls, and so you'l thinke the sacrificer mad, I from the Gods shall finde a recompence; having discharged a faithfull Subjects part to heaven and you, th'end of my creation.

*Mel.* Odmer, thou still hast found beleefe, nor have thy feares at any time bin idle: name what thou mean'st.

*Od.* First draw your sword, then promise you will heare me out ere you make use of it, for I shall move you highly; the sore I come to launch is too much festerd to be cur'd with flatterie.

*Mel.* Tis strange, I promise thee, how? is my honour tainted, or my state in danger?

*Od.* I should not neede to let you see the perill and dishonor that attends your too much Love (I dare not call it dotage) on *Despina*, if your owne judgment were at libertie that better could informe you.

*Mel.* Traitor thou canst not speake eternally, then I shall be reveng'd for blasphemie and breake no oath: Can love to her be dotage?

*Od.* Consider, Sir, what you have lost by loving her, oh could you see, but you are hood winck'd by your lust, from what a pitch of honour you are faine, you would finde that word too little to expresse it; consider what you were at taking of the city, to you accurst though gotten by a glorious victory; all neighbour Princes fear'd you so as does the lesser hawke the Kingly Eagle when he takes his flight no one durst keep the skies to search a prey, but glad to flag their fearfull wings, and seeke the obscure earth for safetie: for your owne subjects they so honor'd you that daily they committed blasphemie, making you, equall to our Prophet in all that could immortalize a man; now each Prince seemes to scorn you and your power, knowing your noble faculties are asleep nay murder'd by your lustfull passion. What need they care to do you injuries

that cannot leave your Mistresse to revenge them; your Souldiers that from your examples had their valours steel'd against their enemies onely seeing you undermine your selfe and them in your ill goverment, turne likewise traitors to themselves and you, swearing a captive shall not governe them, they must have one to lead them forth to war; nor is this only the common Souldier's saying, apt after ease to mutinie, but even the greatest Captaines hold this resolution.

*Mel.* Peace, No more.

*Odm.* If not for shame yet for the dangers sake bethink your selfe; in you the kingdome suffers; struggle a little but for liberty; our Prayers shall untwist your bands; and, once free, your vertues soon will shine againe; so shall you make the world believe it was no fault of yours, rather the envy of the gods that kept you in obscurity so long; for had your vertues not bin thus eclipsed, you might have darkned theirs: Now Sir if you mistrust the truth of what I have delivered, or that my zeale hath made me to deliver truth unreverently, behold my heart which may for both or either satisfie; and if you search each corner you shall find that envie moves me not, nor feare to lose my power by her ingrossing all your favours: no my soul beares witnesse with me, your safetie and the generall good did only prompt my tongue, in what I utter'd.

*Mel.* *Qdmer*, thou hast presum'd above that freedom that even dull Christians doe allow their servants, but thou borne my slave thus presumptuously to enter into my greatest secrets, to rip up my faults before my face, and as it were, by force pull from out my armes my dearest *Despina*, what canst thou hope for but death by some unheard of torments?

*Od.* Sir if you intend still to pursue your pleasure selling your honour and th: kingdomes safety for a few

few wanton kisses, I can expect no less ; but if the spirit of great *Melcholhus*, strangled by sloath and wantonness, againe respire by a true servant's zealous conjurations making his body move to noble deeds such as may even out shine his bravest ancestors, then I may chance to die a gentler death, a nobler can I never. I rather would be sacrific'd for truth and loyalty, then be rewarded for base flattery.

*Mel.* Because thou wert brought up with me a child, and many wayes approv'dst thy selfe faithfull; I pardon thee this presumption, and ere long thou and those of thy opinion shall know that I am able to govern my passion, perhaps, to their amazement.

*Exeunt*

*Enter Orcanes, and Hofa, severally.*

*Hofa.* So soon return'd from hunting Sir.

*Orc.* What comfort can it be for me to follow beasts, having such a beauty in pursuite, for know, my friend, that my affection is more violent than it was before I did enjoy her. In that I imitate my father who now doats more upon *Despina* than ever. But, know you, what the *Baiba* hath complain'd unto my father, that I have forc'd his wife ; we so well did dissemble; but such an answer did my father give him, that thou shalt see hee'l bring *Ozaca* to me, nay be content to hold the door, whilst I againe enjoy her.

*Hofa.* But do you think my Lord he will indure it, will he not by some private means seeke a revenge.

*Orc.* He dares not, he is too tame: but stood my Father as strictly on the poynt of justice, as heretofore, ere love had soften'd him, I should feare his frown, but feeling dayly the force of beauty in *Despina*, he will looke upon my act with favourable eyes.

*Enter*

*Enter Messenger.*

*Mes.* My Lord the Emperour seeing you returne desires your company.

*Orc.* Ple waite upon him, *Hofa*, this night I have contrived a way, if 't be possible, at least to see *Ozaca*.  
(*Exeunt.*)

*Enter Melchobmus.*

*Mel.* My valour, vigilance, and justice made me Commander over this numerous people, with when I have acquired an Empire, and made the neighbour world stand amaz'd fearing my fierce invasion; but by my sloathfull life I am become hated; nay worse, condemn'd by my own subjects, as thought unfit to governe, but since by the goodnesse of our blessed Prophet my eyes are open'd, and I see my error, Ile tread those vertuous paths again that did advance me, and the first act that must incite to look with favourable eyes on my proceedings, shall be the justice Ile perform on my degenerate Son *Orcanes*. What though he were, next my *Despina* the comfort of my life, I can know no partiality to him, nor to my selfe, in prejudice of justice; yet it may falsely brand me with the name of cruell and unnaturall. My Son *Orcanes*, I hear you have a Mistresse, fair I confesse and chaste most certainly: for you did gaine her by a boistrous way.

*Enter Orcanes.*

*Orc.* Sir it were in vain for me to denie it, since *Callibens* hath inform'd you, Sir 'tis true her beauty did compell me.

*Mel.* It was impossible thou shouldst believe *Ozaca* to be more beautifull then *Despina* in my temperance, then although my cause of passion far outwent thine, behold how far thou art from being the son of my vertues, to shew thy baseness I extoll my selfe. I being a Monarch free from the check of any but our divinest



divineſt Prophet, having a made within my power, a captive maid, whoſe only friend or aid was her own innocence, no husband to complain or ſeek redreſſe of any, ſhe being wholly mine, given to me for my pleaſure too, yet all theſe motives could not ſo far prevaile as once to make me offer brutiſh violence, though even from her refusals my deſires increaſt : but thou whoſe baſe deſires hath kill'd all thoughts of vertue or humanity, imployedſt that force lent thee for nobler ends againſt a ſilly woman : and when thou hadſt enjoy'd what couldſt thou boaſt, but taſting of a fruit, wherewith her husband often had bin cloy'd ?

*Orc.* Sir, as affection cannot be created where we liſt, it cannot be remov'd where it is form'd: having at firſt ſight tane poſſeſſion of the heart, I did yet, faintly I confeſſe, check my fond paſſion, it being unlawfull to love anothers wife ; but alas her eyes were much too powerfull to be ſo reſiſted ; beſides imbred corruption in my ſelfe told me, it was nothing to enjoy her, were ſhe free, and at her own diſpoſing, but having ſuch a watchfull dragon to orelook her as her jealous husband, his care made me believe the treasure was more rich, ſo better worth the ſtealing.

*Mel.* It was to him indeed a treasure that poſſeſt it lawfully, though being gain'd by thee, it makes thee poor, to the condition of a ſlave: his honour ſuffers through thy violence, nay bleeds untill my juſtice makes thee bleed to cure it.

*Orc.* I hope you will not be ſo cruell for an offence like this, committed through the heat of youth, ſince you your ſelfe even at theſe yeares adde to Love's triumphs.

*Mel.* Degenerate baſtard, canſt thou hope that an excuſe like this, will paſſe with me for currant, who ſtill hath bin a ſevere puniſher of unjuſt acts? it ſeldome hath bin known that ſuch a wrong was e're appeal'd but

but with the offenders blood, or else the partiall judge within whose power it was to punish, he hath paid for't; or if they could escape the hands of men, yet sure the gods will find them out, and I that doe intend to be a punisher even of my selfe, for my least follies, dare not suffer, lest I offend against heaven thy heinous crimes to pass unscourg'd; and therefore marke thy sentence.

*Orc.* O Sir, Remember who I am.

*Mel.* Whilst thou wast what thou oughtst to be thou needst not bid me to remember that thou wert my son, but since thou art become a stranger to that noblenesse that should accompany thy birth, like a corrupted branch Ile cut thee from the stock, lest I for my injustice by the justice of the heavens should perish with thee, nor shall my subjects be a loser in it, one of more vertue shal succeed me, that wil not ravish women.

*Orc.* Sir, I am miserable, and must implore your mercy; for in your eyes I read my death or something neere it, oh speak then, your tongue cannot pronounce like crueltie.

*Mel.* I find I am a father, and if I hear him longer, pittie will overthrow my justice, and therefore I pronounce.

*Orc.* Oh hold, what Sir, my death or banishment I have bin all my life untill this present hour your hopefull son, for so you oft have call'd me, your heir, and shall I now inherit nought but death or else a thousand deaths, in being banisht from your presence: which of the two to wish, I know not.

*Mel.* Oh that I might lay by the office of a judge, or else put off the nature of a father: for I in this distraction suffer more then he can doe in death, even injur'd *Callibens* selfe would be content with a lesse punishment, and the severest powers of heaven will call me cruell in execution of what I intend, rather then partial, since he is my son.

*Orc.*

*Orc.* Oh speak not Sir, if you intend my death;  
rather by signes make me know *{ Melchohus stamps*  
my doome, twill be lesse cruell *{ with his foot:*

*Mel.* In this behold it then.

*Enter Mutes.*

*Orc.* Nay then *Ozaca*, either thy honour or my  
life is forfeit, these tongue-lesse men do yet pronounce  
my death certain as fate: I see my end, Sir, but what  
the passage to it is I know not.

*Mel.* A darke passage trust me thou must have,  
but longer much then thou expectest, thou shalt not  
die.

*Orc.* Not die, her honor's safe, prison or banish-  
ment I will endure.

*Mel.* These eyes the causes of thy ill, least they  
again betray thee shall for ever loose their  
light.

*Orc.* Is that your mercy? rather take my life.

*Mel.* If thou hadst bin a private man, thou should'st  
have died, but being a Prince and my son, this is  
more just, and naturall, however for the present thou  
think'st it is greater crueltie, for thou shalt live by sor-  
row to appease our Prophet.

*Orc.* Oh Sir your mercy reaches to the highest  
poynt of crueltie, 'twere better not to be at all, then  
not have the comfort of the light: what can life profite  
me a Prince, if made incapable of goverment?

*Mel.* Dispatch, it is decreed. [*They put out one eye.*]

*Orc.* Hold, heare me sir, I have indur'd enough to  
shew, I prize *Ozaca's* honour, one eye is lost. Sir I have  
belied my selfe; for know, *Ozaca* was more willing  
to meet my wisht imbraces, then I to offer them.

*Mel.* Now I repent my pittie, thou wretch made  
up of basenesse wouldst thou to save that other wicked  
eye increase the villianies thou didst commit against

*Ozaca*

*Ozaca*: thou only didst before defile her person, now thou dost murder her, and her husband, both alive but I in their behalfe and justice pronounce thy death for shouldst thou live, thou wouldst infect the world with baseness yet unheard of: bear him from my sight and strangle him, lest as I am a Father, Pittie confound my Justice.

*Orc.* By *Mahomet*, Sir, father hear me.

*Mel.* Away with him, the feare of death would make him heap more perjuries upon his soul.

A Prince that for the losse of sight dares lie. { *Exe-*  
Deserves death here, hereafter infamie. { *unt.*

*Finis Actus quartus.*

## Actus quintus.

*Enter Haly, Odmer, Hosa,  
and Captains.*

*Hal.* **O** *Dmer*, you that have all the favours of the time can surely tell, if you will honour us so much, for what great cause it is, that we, and all the Captains are commanded to assemble here.

*Odm.* Great *Haly*, who thinks all not done by him ill done, and who envies the smallest grace that any other shall receive, though their deserts perhaps may equall his, can even as well informe himselfe he thinks as *Odmer* can, and out of scorn does onely aske the question, but know, my Polititian, that ere long you'll find some alteration that you dreame not of.

[ *Hoboyes*

*Enter Melchosthus and Despinas*

*Haly.* *Odmer*, is this your change you talke of?

*Odm.* Why, *Haly*, in his eyes you may read something



thing if you'l observe not usuall, I have not seen him looke like himselfe since he forsooke *Mars* to become the slave of *Venus*.

*Mel.* I hear that there are some amongst you that dare take upon them to maligne my pleasures, and taxe me for my easie life, alleadging that I have forgot the duty of the gods, paying all my devotions to this Saint; nay some have gone so far as to affirme, I have given ore to be a King, making my selfe my captives slave, and so deserve no longer to beare Rule. Although I need not make Apologies (for none can call me to account but heaven) yet Ile so far descend from that high pitch of Majesty whereon I am seated, as in familiar termes to question with you, and by the honour of a King, which I have yet kept pure from stain, however some have by their divellish cunning striven to blot it, Ile give you liberty to answer, in what I shall aske you, with as much freedome as if you were all Kings, or I your fellow subject.

*I. Cap.* What can this meane?

*Haly.* I know not what will follow, but well I understand what's past, and will prevent him since he hath found me out, I shall be caught in mine own snare else.

*Mel.* Tell me and tell me truely, which of you that had a beauty like to this, but sometimes would to enjoy her company neglect our greatest businesse, view her well for Ile make no description; onely let me advise you fix not your eyes at first upon her eyes if it be possible, least their brightnesse should strike you blind before you had observ'd her other beauties, and when you have beheld her outward forme, know that her mind as farr exceeds that, as the soul is more worthy then the body, which does indeed admit of no comparison.

*Haly.* She is more excellent then can be spoke, and all

all that should but taxe you, if you should even adore her, deserve death for their grosse ignorance.

1 *Cap.* *Haly* hath spoke what all confesse, and we have too unjustly murmur'd at your pleasures.

2 *Cap.* No man could go abroad to War, that might enjoy such happiness in peace.

*Haly.* Who would not for her sake neglect even heaven it selfe?

*Mel.* Unto her excellence add the consideration of the difficulty I had in obtaining her, which ties mans nature faster to the object.

1 *Cap.* We all acknowledge that your joyes are infinite in her, and that it lyes not in the power of man to quit such happiness.

*Mel.* To make you know the difference then twixt you and me, and that I value the good of you my subjects and my honour far above fading pleasures, be this my witness, thus cut I from my selfe such a content, that Mortals nere enjoy'd.

*Des.* Oh me, my fault lay in my blood, let that expiate my sin against heaven, mercy, mercy.

*Om.* Oh crueltie.

*Od.* An act noble above example yet it moves my pittie, this was no end of mine, heaven knowes.

*Mel.* Now by this act judge whether your Emperour be able to governe his passions or no, when they oppose themselves against his honour, and that you may know that pleasure hath not chang'd my nature, prepare for war, and what the neighbour Princes whilest we slept by stealth obtain'd.

By force which interest back shall be regain'd.

See the body noblie intumb'd, I dare not view it  
(Exit)

*Od.* Now *Haly* was not this unlook'd for? (Exit)

*Haly.* Yes *Odmer*, on the first opportunity we are  
lost else. (Exit)

1 *Cap.*

1 Cap. It must be so, this act will gaine the people.

2 Cap. It must be so.

*Enter Ofmond.*

*Ofm.* What meant the Emperour to send me from this meeting on such a sleeveless errand: ha what bloody object is this, I hope I dreame, if not, may I be blind for ever, 'tis she: which of the gods fearing to be transplanted by her greater excellence hath done this? no mortall man durst, or could have the heart to execute such mischief: lay down the sacred load and let me know the bloody villaine; art thou gon? say whose hand was it, that let out her pure soul at these grim wounds, and in the bloody act parted more excellence, then ere shall meet again.

1. Sol. One that dares justifie it.

*Ofm.* Villaine thou liest hee dares not, though thou and all thy generation should assist him who wast?

1. Sol. I am a soldier, take your lie againe, for know it was *Melcolhus*.

*Ofm.* Slave, dost thou mock my griefes?

2. Sol. Hold, noble *Ofmond*, and know we manifest our love unto your virtues in forbearing to cut you all in peices for daring to offer this violence: for by the honor of soldiers he tells you truth; the Emperour with his owne hands here perform'd it, before all chiefe commanders with an intent I thinke to get againe the soldiers love, which he had lost by her.

*Of.* I do confesse my rashnes, let my cause of rage excuse it: the Emperour do it, say you? it is impossible; now, by Mahomet, you are all traitours, and by some bloody statesmen are suborn'd to do this wickednes, and being found to save your guilty selves from justice, you lay it on the Emperour, you might as well make me beleeve that he had pull'd his eyes out, or his heart, for shee was far more deere, and therefore hee deferre revenge no longer.

D

*Enter*

*Enter a Captaine.*

2. *Sold.* Wound him, not onely defend your selves, hees mad with passion.

*Capt.* Hold noble friend, what meanes this?

*Osmond.* These villaines here have kill'd the Emperours Mistris and would escape by laying it on him; when he, when he shall know it once, will wish no longer life.

*Capt.* Pacifie your rage and heare mee by Mahomes, what you have heard is truth, and never was there a gain'd more applause amongst the old souldiers, whose loss of blood hath quite extinguished the desire of women: but for my part me thought, though it be brave in the consideration yet it was a horrid spectacle to see.

*Osmond.* Ist even so? then had he tane a surfet by being too happie?

*Capt.* No sure he lov'd her, when he kill'd her.

*Osmond.* Shall I die with thee, my deer sister, for so it was thy will I should esteeme thee: oh looke upon this face and tell me, if there remain'd the least spark of humanity in him, that could but once have said, that shee should thus be murderd; what was he then that could himselfe perform it! horrid, horrid deed: shee in whose armes he slept the night before, and had no doubt more joyes then tounes can utter: but if there be those Gods which punish villainies, he may hereafter pay for't.

*Capt. Osmond,* this ill becomes your dutie, which hitherto hath led the way even to the forwardest in zeale.

*Osmond.* Why friend, I speake not of *Melcosmus*, he could not do it, some furie enterd him.

*Capt.* Sir I love you: so well, that I dare not stay to heare you: beare off the body. *Exit.*

*Osmond.* Oh stay, good souldiers, let me take my last leave: what shall I say, shee cannot answer, it may be her faire Soul hovers about to see how they will use



her deere Companion : if so, oh let it heare my vow by Mahomet and all the powers of heaven I swear with speed to be reveng'd upon thy cruell murderer, all his brave former acts are by thy innocent blood washt from my remembrance: for his love to me and paiment of my dutie they in it are cancelld, I was not more his slave then he was thine, confirm'd with many thousand oathes, and most unjustly he hath not onely broke those bands, but with thy deere blood died his villainie in grain, so that they cannot change their horrid colour in my memorie, till I take equall vengeance, but I must needes come short both that I am by his example taught, and that I shall but kill a murderer when thou diedst innocent.

1. *Sol.* Wee in this stay, hazzard our lives.

*Os.* I have done, now let me after death do that which love and duty to *Melcoshus*, whilst shee liv'd, would never suffer me: these pale cold lips have yet the power to make me burne in revenge, and these deere cies sometimes the maister peece of nature can yet command me to extinguish their extinguisher. Now soldiers take her hence, and I will beare you company to see her buried, the passion I have shewed, you may excuse, since all know I did first present her to *Melcoshus*, for which of you, that had but given a horse or dog, excellent in their kinde, and seeing it at first as it deserv'd lov'd and cherisht by him that did receive it, and after thus us'd without a cause, but would grieve something: deal freely, would it not move you, ha, if so, then thinke what I now suffer, who heaven knowes did love this Lady, as my sister.

2. *Sol.* Sir we grieve with you, and with the Emperour had not bin so cruell.

*Os.* Thanks soldiers, but where wishes faile, we must apply our reason to ease our griefe.

My ease alone consists in shedding his hea rt blood.

That gain'd, and then destroyd, earths cheefest good.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Ozaca.*

*Oza.* Shall I rejoyce, or shall I grieve my present fortune? rejoyce most certainly, though all difficultie and danger attend my love; for my *Orcanes* is a Prince so excellent in all, that though I ne're againe enjoy him, yet am I happy: but his affection sure which seem'd to equall mine will make him study some way how we againe may meet, but soft here comes my husband with a joyfull Countenance.

*Enter Callibens.*

*Calli.* My deere *Ozaca*, I bring ease to thy vext soul, I had bin here long since, but that the Emperours expresse command upon affaires with held me, and far too happy was the newes for any other but my selfe to bring: kneele down with me and pray the Gods to prosper long *Melcoshus*.

*Oza.* Why Sir, what's the occasion? speak I pray you.

*Calli.* I knew his justice could not slacke what er'e he emd.

*Oza.* What justice? speak, oh my feares!

*Calli.* The Prince.

*Oza.* Speake, what of him?

*Calli.* The lustfull Prince, my deere *Ozaca*, hath by his blood washt cleane thy stain.

*Oza.* Ha.

[*Shee Sorrowes*]

*Calli.* *Ozaca*, my *Ozaca*, oh speake; the joy of her revenge overcomes her know my deer wife the Prince *Orcanes* for his foule rape on thee is by his noble father justly put to death: oh praise *Melcoshus* in thy soul, who would not be unjust to save his son being a villaine.

*Oza.* Is the Prince dead then?

*Calli.* I, my best love, to my great comfort, now I may

may kisse thee joyfully, the wound thy honour did receive is cur'd.

Oz. Forbear, I must not kisse you, till I know by whom the cure was wrought, if any other then your selfe inform'd against *Orcanes*, and so provok'd the father to kill his son; nay, if you did not extoll justice, and cry down mercy quite, though it be the greatest attribute belonging to the gods, hope not that I should ever look on you with love, or come within your bed.

Cal. Thinks my *Ozaca*, I so little love her, that I did sleep in my revenge: How often did I urge unto *Melcolbus* all arguments; that might incense him against his son, nay, told him, as I well might do, *Orcanes* could not be his Offspring that had so basely given him selfe to vice: However, I alledg'd in putting him to death, he should perform a justice, that would make him famous through the world, since naturall affection, the gods appointing him to hold the ballance, could not yet weigh down justice.

Oz. Did you alledge all this, and did this move him to put the Prince to death?

Cal. It did. Me thinks thou lookst not kindly on me for all this.

Oz. And shall I live after *Orcanes*? No.

Cal. What saies *Ozaca*?

Oz. Nothing, but is he dead, dead certainly, and by your means?

Cal. He is.

Oz. Umh, umh, gone, for ever gone.

Cal. *Ozaca*, speak to me.

Oz. He died to save my honour, and shall I live behinde him, and live with him too, that triumphs in his death? It must not, it shall not be; I am too far indebted, I'll first make even with some. Oh husband, if you had kill'd *Orcanes* your selfe, then the revenge

had stood more noble. You should { stab her husband  
have struck him thus and thus. { and her selfe.

*Cal. Ozaca.*

*Oz.* And then your selfe to escape shamefull death.

*Cal.* What can this cruelty in thee, *Ozaca*, mean?

*Oz.* Know, thou dull beast, I was so far from being  
forc'd, that I did burn in a more ardent flame then be:  
Yet, had thy jealous brain not taught thee, to frame  
that Letter for thine own dishonour, I had been inno-  
cent in act perhaps, how ere my will had horn'd thee.  
But having once enjoyed a Prince so perfect, I never  
would admit thy loathed embraces, and so have rather  
chose death, with revenge on thee too boot, who  
wert the cause *Orcanes* suffered death. Being thus di-  
vorc'd from thee, I hope I in *Elizeum* shall enjoy him

*Enter Servants.*

*Cal.* Help ho, help ho, I finde that this is truth, my  
wounds are witnesse, and that there is no trusting wo-  
mens tears I durst have sworn thee more innocent, than  
now I see thee wicked; yet, however live, and repeat  
thy sins, for I can forgive thee, nay, perchance never  
cease to love thee.

*Oz.* Dull fool, canst thou believe my resolutions are  
so weak, as for the fear and pain of death, to give  
them over, lesse for the love of thee; wer't thou the  
Monarch of the whole world, I would not live after  
*Orcanes*, to be the partner of thy glories; but as it is,  
this knife is far more welcome to me; than thy sight.  
flie, my soul, flie, and leave this loathed prison to meet  
*Orcanes*. So, so, let this witnesse, I for thee die, *Orcanes*,  
and hope I have revenged thee. [dies.]

*Cal.* My wound is far more dangerous than I  
thought, and I, for ought I know, may bear thee com-  
pany; but we shall soon part wales, if there be any ju-  
stice in the gods. I would live, bear me to my chambers  
and

Ozaca madly



and for that wicked woman, onc my wife, let her be buried honourably. [*Exeunt servani with him.*]

*Enter Melcoshus.*

*Mel* Night, dark thoughts, and justly so, since by my cruelties, obscured that light, which was my only comfort. Oh *Despina*, pardon me most penitent and now no more afflict me in my dreams; if thou beest mercifull. I will erect an Altar in this obscure Walk, and in the dead of night offer thee sacrifice; nay, even at noon-day would I perform it, and in the sight of all, but that I know it must appear too plainly, that I to thee performed all rites with greater reverence, than to our sacred prophet and so the people might rebell, for fear of which, and losse of my neere-fading honour, I did become thy cruell butcher. Bear me, cold earth, till I have some way reconciled my selfe to my dear saint.

*Enter Haly and Captains.*

*Hal.* Are they come over?

*1. Cap.* They are. How are we sure hee's here now?

*Hal.* 'Tis not so dark, but we shall finde him; stand close a little, perchance he's not come down yet.

*Enter Osmond.*

*Osmond.* You just powers, be this night auspicious in aiding my revenge; guide you this instrument as right unto his tyrant heart, as I will give it strength to pierce it: but soft, by the Moons light, I see some men before me, what can it mean? 'tis death for any but *Melcoshus* to enter here. 'Twould grieve my soul to die, and misse revenge too. Behinde this bush unseen, I shall observe.

*Mel.* Oh my *Despina*.

*Hal.* Hee's in the Arbour, I heard him groan; let's lose no time, but strike him dead, before he draw his sword, or call for help; if he see to morrow's Sun he'l

know too much of our designs ere night, for us to see it set. *Osm* suspects our conspiracy shrewdly, and suddainly will finde the truth.

2 *Cap.* Delay no time then.

*Osm.* What's this I hear, how ere in me it is but justice to take *Melchus* life in them 'tis damn'd treason, which I'll prevent; nor shall they frustrate me of my revenge their hands are far too base.

*Hal.* Draw, and dispatch him. { *They fight, Haly &*

*Osm.* Sink down to hell, *Haly*, { *the Captains slain.*  
thou root of treason, with these thy cursed branches.

*Mel.* *Omond*, let me embrace thee in these wounded armes, I fear, to death. Thou wert ordained to be the lasting pattern of love and duty.

*Osm.* Forbear this kindnesse, for know, howe're I did preserve you from their swords, I come my selfe to kill you for *D-spina's* sake, her innocent blood cries for revenge; and by those powers I am ordained to see their justice satisfied, by taking life from him, who cruelly extinguished that pure light, which for a long time they intended should have been a comfort to the world, and a great witness of their power.

*Mel.* Nay, if my *Osmond* be a traitour but in thought once, he shall not need to use his sword, I would not wish to live beyond his faith; for, can there be a love or truth left in a subject, when 'tis not to be found in him. Now I perceive the murder I committed was most horrid, since he that lov'd me more then her, she being alive, would now rob me of life to revenge her.

*Osm.* Know, Tyrant, I lov'd thee once, when thou wert worthy to be my Prince and Master, more than my selfe: But thou, when thou hadst satisfied thy beastly lust, to please the ignorant multitude, thou mad'st a sacrifice of her to them, to whom thou rather shouldst have made them offer sacrifice, on perill of their lives.

*Mel.*

*Mel.* *Osmond*, thou art here more cruell in thy accusation, then in thy intent to kill me : For, from the danger of thy sword, there's a divinity that waits upon the person of a Prince, that would protect me ; but against the thoughts of thy unexpected treason, there is no armour ; for thy unkindnesse so invades my soul, that all that blood that should supply these nerves, flies to my heart to tell it, *Osmond* no longer does wish to have a being there, if so, to split it will be kindnesse,

*Osmond.* Me thinks I finde my resolution of revenge begin to bate its force.

*Mel.* If the consideration of your faith and love to me, so far prevail above your own affection, that you dispens'd with it to make me happy ; believe likewise, from the consideration of that care a King should have over his subjects, which wholly was, and ever should have been whilst she did live by me, neglected, I rather kill'd her, than that my love was ought diminished ; for had I lov'd her lesse, she might have lived ; but I believing her to be so excellent, could think of nothing whilst she lived, but her embraces.

*Osmond.* And therefore would you make her suffer for your fault, was that the justice of *Melcolhus*? Your Son offended, and you punished him; but here you spared your selfe, striking an innocent.

*Mel.* 'Tis true, I struck her being innocent, yet did not injure her or any, but my selfe : I broke no Lawes of Gods nor men : to prove which, I ask no more of heaven, but that the taper of my life, which now growes dim, may burn some minutes longer ; then shall I shew my *Osmond*, by their light of reason, that my unhappy Starrs are rather guilty of *Despina's* death, than I ; she was a Captive, and a Christian, which by our Lawes, we freely may dispose of as we please ; her death then, had I been but a subject, was no breach of them.

*Osmond.*



*Ofm.* She was a creature, for whose sake you would have once have broken all Lawes.

*Mel.* I could break none, my power being unconfin'd. But interrupt me not, lest I do faint, ere I can make an end. The Souldiers were so far from being displeased, that they acknowledged her death a Jubilee. Our prophet *Mahomet* might most rejoyce to see her breathlesse, whose perfections, being a Christian, so far out-went all those that honour'd him, that some in time might justly doubt our God to be lesse powerfull than theirs, and so the reverence we now pay, grow cold.

*Ofm.* All this I grant; but for your injuries to her, what art can salve them?

*Mel.* She was the advocate of all those of her faith, and at my hands procured much mercy for them. The perfect Christian is so proud of nought as Martyrdom, and the more innocent from crime, the greater joy they take in death. Although *Despina* was not martyred for her faith, I grant, but by the force of her unequal'd beauty, made a sacrifice to save my honour; yet amongst those of her sect, she cannot misse the adoration of a Saint: And so I only sent her to a greater happinesse. You may alledge it was a happinesse.

*Ofm.* Oh divine *Despina*.

*Mel.* She did not yet desire, to dy but rather wisht to live with me, she lov'd. To this again I answered, that I so much did doat upon her excellence, that I should have forgot to rule; and she must then have liv'd, to see me miserably depriv'd of state and honour. Yet, as it now falls out, my fortune then had been more favourable; for, then had *Osmond's* love been left a pattern to posterity, and I should sure have found the comfort of his faith, when all men else were traitours. But now—

*Ofm.* He hath delivered this Apologie with so much griefe, majesty, and love, that my own reason makes



makes me know 'tis truth, and bids me justly turn that hatred, which I hither brought against him, upon my guilty selfe, for I have been a heinous traitor. Oh dread Sir, your pardon. But why should I once hope, I that have stood so strictly on my faith, and by a thousand obligations, been fast tyed in bands of duty, yet thus to break without a just cause, just cause, as if there could be any pretence for treason: Shall injuries make men cease to be vertuous?

*Mel.* Let my soul part with joy, since *Osmond* sees his error; thy love to me, to vertue, and *Despina*, have fought so nobly, that it still overcomes; which was most vertuous? thy love made thee present her to me, thy faith made thee refuse to take again what thou hadst given, when she did offer it; and when thou thoughtest, that cruelly and most unjustly I had killed *Despina*, thy noble anger made thee pursue revenge; but now, that thou dost finde that anger was unjust, thy faith overthrowes it, nay, turns it on thy selfe, since 'twas my fate, not I, was guilty of her death, which let my pardon mitigate, so at my death thou shalt expresse obedience, for now I feel his messenger approach; nor does it grieve me now so much to die, as to have lived, and thou been false. If Lovers meet in *Elizium*, and enjoy each other, there will thy vertues gain *Despina* from me. [he dies.]

*Osmond.* Stay, hee's gone, and shall I live, he and *Despina* dead? 'twere madnesse; for what is in the world left that's worthy; or, if there be two such, it is not like, that I shall love the one, and serve the other. The fates ordain'd me onely for this end, he nursed and bred me, to wait upon him here, and in the other world. But should I stay, untill the Souldiers know hee's dead, some one of greater faith and courage may, by a voluntary death, seek to prevent me; besides, *Despina*, and the expiation of my intended treason, urges me to die  
Com

*Osmond the great Turk, or,*

Come my dear friend, perform thy latest service, in sending me thy Master to *Elizium*. So, me thinks I see *Despina* stand ready to embrace me, but for *Melcohus* sake, even there again I will refuse her. Here at his honoured feet I'll lay me down. You gods, let not the noble affection of our soul change after death, let us remain all three so linkt together in affection, as we were before this bloody separation. [he dies.]

*Enter Odmer, Hofa, Captain, and Souldiers.*

*Od.* Be favourable, you gods, and grant, that the clashing of swords we heard within *Melcohus's* private walk, have not prevented us; my heart misgives me, that we come too late: Treason is swift in execution, the devill thrusting on to mischief; and see a bloody witness, that my fears are true, 'tis *Haly. Mahomet*, defend the Emperour.

*Cap.* See, here are others dead, the Emperour I think.

*Od.* Ha! what sayest thou, screech Owl?

*Hof.* Alas, and noble *Osmond* too.

*Od.* Cold as earth. You gods, was this your justice? could you suffer this royall building, which you had rais'd unto a glorious height, to shew your power on mortalls, to fall to earth again in such obscurity, as none could be witness of his ruine. But pardon me, you powers, I have profan'd; we may conclude from these witnesses, he nobly fell, and died not unreveng'd. He ever walked alone, how then comes *Osmond* here; one to suspect him for a traitor, were a sin against Vertue, his very posture witnesses his love, kissing his Masters feet, but more his faithfull hand assures me, that his wounds are from himselfe, as scorning the world, since it no longer did contain *Melcohus*, who gave it lustre. And shall so young years shew the way of love and duty, yet old *Odmer* fear to follow

follow him ? No, Boy, thou shalt not so outstrip me.)

*Hof.* Hold, noble *Odmer*, will you forsake us too ? then must the *Tartar* cease to be a people : Who shall command us ? all will run to ruine. Accept the Empire rather.

*Om.* Haile *Odmer*, King of the *Tartars*.

*Odm.* Tempt not my faith so : shall hope of honours make me live after *Melcoshus* ? Be this my witnesse to the contrary.

*Capt.* *Odmer* till now did never shew, he was a greater lover of himselfe than vertue ; he would sleep quiet in his grave, rather than by a little trouble in the world, preserve us all from ruine. But in the name of *Mahomet*, I charge you forsake death, and accept the Empire.

*Odm.* Grant, that *Melcoshus*'s son, the dead *Orcanes* brother, when hee's of age, may take my place, and I'll obey the gods, in yielding to your desires.

*Om.* Long live *Odmer*, King of the *Tartars*.

*Odm.* By whom you were inspir'd to teach me this more reasonable way of duty, take up this noble Coarse; for which I will erect a Tombe, shall make his name live to eternity, in which the faith and love of *Osmond* shall not be forgotten.

FINIS.

*L. Livingston*

*Anna Maria Cary*

I Love to Love  
my Love but if  
his and his more

Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a list or ledger entry, with some numbers and symbols visible.



